NISBET DOUBT POSSIBILITY OF STATUS APARTE ON JANUARY 1, 1986



ORANJESTAD-

Benny Nisbet, leader of the P.P.A. party says that due to the fact the Mini Conference with the Minister for Antillean afairs Mr. Jan de Koning was a failure, and that no agreement was reached betwee the Dutch and Antillean governments on the Solidarity Fund, he has seriou doubts about the Status Aparte for Aruba on January 1,1986.

Except for the M.E.P.par ty, the leader of several of the political parties have a similar opinion to that of the P.P.A. leader, and the recent political developments helped to confirm their opinion.Another factor is that so much time has been lost on account of internal difficulties in the M.E.P. party and polarisation between that party and the other factions that it is indeed doubt ful if the M.E.P.'s aspiration could become a reality on January 1,1986, without having to cut cornersto meet the deadline, thereby jeopardizing the future of Aruba and causing irreparable damage.



These are the Candidates who participated Thursday in the Election for Carnaval Queen at the RCA Stadium



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ARUBA'S FIRST ENGLISH ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY

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SHELL WILL CLOSE DOWN IF THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT COMPLY WITH FOUR CONDITIONS

WILLEMSTAD-

If it is not possible for the Central Government to make a decision on the conditions stipulated by Shell before the end of March, the refinery will not decide at that moment to close down, one of the directors of the Shell group Eng.J.H. Choufoer, told the Dutch newspaper "Het Vrije Volk"

.The management

of Shell in Curacao stipulated march 31 as the deadline to hear if the government will sign a let ter of intent to participate in the refinery. Choufoer said in an interview with the newspaper that Shell will not come to a conclusion at once if the government has not decided by March 31 if it will participate with the majority of shares yes or no. "But this situation can-

not last much longer",he said. In view of the heavy losses experienced by the refinery in recent years, the management of Shell in London and the Hague decided that the refinery must beclosed. The only way to avoid the closure of the refinery is if the Central Government comply with the four conditions stipulated by Shell Besides participating with the majority of shares;

Venezuela should supply the refinery with 50,000 barrels more crude per day; the refinery should lay off about 500 emplovess and eliminate the 28 million florins Shell pays the Government each year, with or without profit.If the Government does not comply with these conditions we will no longer be able to continue the operation of the refinery, said Engineer Chouboer.



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CARNIVAL IN ARUBA IS SOMETHING

economic decline and the political turmoil and uncertainty on the island, the people of Aruba are celebrating the carnival season with the usual enthusiasm and gaiety. All the events were well attended, and as we come closer to the grand finale this weekend the mood is accelerating. In spite of the warnings of approaching financial crisis, people are spending money as usual to buy their costumes, drinks and food, and the parties and carnival dances are in full swing. Lights can be seen bur ning until the wee hours as people are putting the finishing touches on costumes and floats. It is indeed amazing how the Aruban population has adapted carnival, which as so many other things in Aruba, is imported. The Aruban people have made carnival a national celebration, and the spirit and enthusiasm for the pre-lenten festival is an in dicatiob that regardless of any situation, carnival is here to stay. People will

In spite of the imminent

put their hearts into something that they love, and the efforts and dedication evident for carnival is an indication that the people of Aruba love carnival. Aruba carnival has also become popular overseas and there are people from the United States and Venezuela who return to Aruba year after year to see, participate in it and enjoy it. Many of those people have seen carnival in other parts of the world, but they unanimously agree that Aruba's carnival is something unique.

Especially now that it is apparent that tourism wil I have to be our main source of our economy, the government, the hotel s, and all other businesses that depend directly or in directly on tourism shoul d pay full attention to carnival :advertise it in in ternational publications, create more carnival activities, sponser groups and bands, and encourage the people to make Aruba's carnival one of the Caribbean's greatest attraction

POLICE TO CONTROL BARS ETC. ON CARNIVAL

ORANJESTAD --

Due to many calls from people expressing their concern about the number of young boys and girls who were seen drinking alcoholic beverages and behaving disorderly during the children's carnival Sunday in Oranjestad, the police announ-

ced this week that bars, rumshops and other establishments will be severly controlled during the car nival parades thos weekend.

Persons caught selling alcoholic beverages to minors will be fined and might even lose their license.

AMERICAN STATE



A fella tell Willy dat he was jus'tinkin'bouk goin' in politiks but he say dat hear dat blows start fallin' so now he change he moind.

A old lady say dat fo she part dey cud keep all de drumban'an' all koind ah ban'becausin it ain't got nuttin to put picong in canival bettah dan a steelban She as soon as she hear pan she head does raise.

A fella say dat dey bettah change de lotto sistem. He say is too much ah up an' dong to get yuh money when yuh win. He say dey does give yuh a check den yuh have to go to de bank an' all koind ah ting. He say dat when he win catoo chi he gettin' he money one toim.

Well people can tink on ting. A fella tell Willy dat de poor dominicanas dem get tin de blame fo' everything but it got a lotta woman here from udder countries doin' de same ting an' gettin' away wid it.

Well not even fo' de pastoor de thiefs dem ain't got no respect. Willy hear dat dey bus' a raid on Catholic Pastoor in San Nicolas an' thief he bottle ah Whisky.

A bartender in Playa tell Willy dat when it had de children canival Sunday a lil boy come in de bar an' ask fo' some watta. He say when he give de boy de watta he tek a bottle ah rum ouk he pocket, tek a shot an' chase it wid de watta. What a toim!....

A lady tell Willy dat fo' de two children canivals dem she husband drink so much dat up to now he can't ketch heself. She say she wondah wha' goin'happen to he fo' de two big people canivals.

A.T.I.A. & A.H.T.A. RECOMMENDATIONS TO GOVERNMENT

Continuation from last week

3 Taskforce and action points.

It is our suggestion to the government to form a small taskforce with the task to:

a/effect new business esta blishments and new eco nomic activity.

b/contact companies and entrepeneurs in Venezuela with the object to attract them to Aruba in connection with the possibilities of the entrance of products in the European Common market and the USA.

c/inform Dutch companies about the possibilities for trade and industry establishments on Aruba.

d/contact American com panies-high-tech-for esta blishing production unit s on Aruba.

e/contact project developers for a large scale deve lopment of the Seroe Colorado -Rodgers Beach area.

f/promote investment in hotels on Aruba.

g/study the possibilities of the present government Tourism Develop ment plan and adjust the plan, if necessary, to new requirements for rapid development of the tourist sector.Such study to be made in coo peration with Ahata, the tourist bureau and other government department h/study the present possibilities of a golfcourse at Bubali. Make plans for a course and look for entrepeneurs to built and operate the course. i/set up local promotion campaigns to stimulate Arubans to build and operate smaller hotels and pensions.

j/attract enterprises specifically for the free zone. k/promote cooperative enterprises and stimulate young people to start and enterprise.

l/search fro funds to make it possible to offer long term financing and participation in the equity of new companies m/expand the Banco de Desarollo Arubano, in order to make growth of the investments-large and small-possible.

o/negotiate a change of policy concerning the development aid given by Holland. Try to convince Holland to change from projects to program s. Examples of programs to be financed with deve-

1.Temporary aid to cover budget deficits of the Aruban government.

lopment aid:

2.Program of financing lay-off programs of the government.

3.Program to educate laid off government personnel and prepare them for jobs in the private sector.

4.Programs concerning fields of social care-a.o. housing programs of FCCA -which may other wise face problems due to lack of funds.

p/try to arrange commercial long term loans under Dutch Government guarantee for the financing of new projects in the private sector.

q/speed up the process to prepare bidding for exploration and operation of possible oil and gas field off the coast of Aruba.

Conclusion

It is the opinion of the commission that the economic slump caused by Lago's closing, must be met with a strong accent on economic growth.Only if we expand tourism rapidly, is it possible to realize this growth, and can we bring back employment to reasonable levels. If we fail to create economic growth, Aruba will go into a negative spi ral, with increased failures of enterprises, increased unemployment, further decrease of government

income and after some time a situation in which the government has no means to guarantee basic needs such as food, shelter, education, healthcare etc. Our recommendation s are geared to preventing such fatal development and to pull Aruba out of the negative spiral. Painfull adjustments are neces

Cont. on page 11

DUTCH AND ANTILLEAN GOVERNMENTS FAIL TO REACH AGREEMENT ON SOLIDARITY FUND



ORANJESTAD-

The Mini Summit Conference on the future of the Netherlands Antilles which was held in the Aruba Concorde Hotel during the weekend was a flop. Apparently the Solidary Fund was the bigges t obstacle. The delegation s could not reach an agreement on the Solidaity Fund, MEP leader Betico Croes surprised the other delegates when he sided with Minister de Koning's proposal that Holland contribute only 20

percent to the Solidaity Fund and Aruba 25 percent! Betico 's declaration drew strong protests from A.V.P. and P.P.A. leaders, Henny Eman and Benny Nisbet. They claim that on several occasions Betico Croes said that Holland must accept the responsibility for the smaller islands, but now he wants to commit Aruba to pay 25 percent to the solidarity fund forever."That is ridiculous and unacceptable", said Henny Eman. Mr. Eman

then asked what was the opinion of the Central Government regarding Betico's declaration. Minister Frank Rozendal replied that the Central Government definitely does not support de Konings proposal that Holland contribute only 20 percent to the Solidaity Fun d. Minister de Koning said that Holland's contribution should be symbolic due to the fact that Holland does not want to be-

Cont. on page 11

GIRL DROWNED AT **ANDICURI**

ORANJESTAD-

Yolanda Malva Joe, 13, drowned at Andicuri on Aruba's north coast monday afternoon. Malva and 3 friends were sitting on a rock after swimming when a huge wave struck them and threw her into the sea. Nicolaas Gomez. one of her friends tried to rescue her but injured his leg and had to return

to the shore. Her body was spotted drifting off the coast Monday morning and the police assisted her relatives in bringing the corpse ashore. Yolanda was a pupil of Colegio Arubano and her school cancelled all its activities for the Carnival weekend. The local exten ds its sympathy to the relatives of the deceased.

OBITUARY

Mr. Johan Geerman, better known as "Jan Barbero" passed away earlier this week at the age of 89 years.Mr.Geerman's Barbershop is located at the foot of the B.v.de Veen Zeppenfeldtstraat has been a landmark in San Nicolas for many, many years. In spite of his advanced age, Jan Barbero



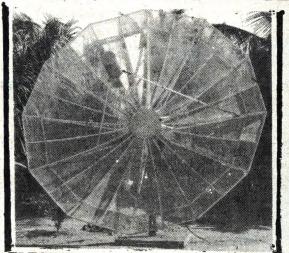
was, until recently, a faintliar sight in his barbershop. The local extends its condolense to the relatives of the deceased.



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ORANJESTAD-Forty-eight pupils of the Filomena College ,accompanied by teachers Lydia Kelly and Eric Tchong visited the Queen Beatrix International Airport to get acquainted with the equipment and facilities there. The visit was also in connection with the 50th anniversary of an airport in Aruba.



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maakt hierbij bekend dat het tijdvak voor de candidaatstelling voor de verkiezing van een lid voor het GROOTBEDRIJF en een lid voor het KLEINBE-DRIJF,i.v.m. het aftreden van de Heren MIGUEL J.MANSUR en MICHAEL S.KUIPERI als bestuursleden,is vastgesteld vanaf de 11de Maart 1985 tot 25 Maart 1985.Gedurende dit tijdvak van veertien dagen kunnen ter Secretarie der Kamer op werkdagen van des voormiddags 9.00 uur tot des middags 12.00 uur, candidaten worden opgegeven door indiening van een opgave, ondertekend door tenminste VIJFTIEN kiezers die bevoegd zijn deel te nemen aan de verkiezing, waarvoor de candidaatstelling is geschied. Vergezeld van een schriftelijk verkla ring van een candidaat dat deze bereid is een candidatuur te aanvaarden.Formulieren hiervoor zijn kosteloos voor de kiezers verkrijgbaar ten burele der kamer.Inlevering geschiedt persoonlijk door een der ondertekenaars.

Aruba,6 februari 1985

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K.L.M. PLANE INTERRUPTED FLIGHT

WILLEMSTAD-A

M. plane which left Aruba Friday afternoon for Amsterdam via Caracas and Lisbon, interrupted its flight 2 hours after leaving Caracas and headed for Curacao. According to reports, the pilot decided to interrupt the flight when he noted that the plane was not functioning normally and it was

believed that the fuel tanked in Aruba was contaminated. In regards to the above, Lago issued the following press release.

LAGO OIL & TRANS-PORT COMPANY, LTD.

Discontinued the refeuling Operations at the Queen Beatric Airport on Friday afternoon, February 8,1985 and resumed Operations as of noon

Sunday, February 1985.

10,

On Friday ,February 8, Lago's airport personnel in Aruba reported that they considered the color of the jet fuel to be more yellow than usual.Representative samples were drawn and full analysis carried out. During this period it was deemed pru dent to terminate refueling operations and all aviation customers who had received fuel earlier on February 8 were advised and appropriate actions taken.

Results of the analysis confirmed that Lago's jet fuel at the Queen Beatrix airport in Aruba was in full compliance with all industry jet fuel specifica tions.

As an extra precaution all jet fuel tanks, lines and refuelers at the airport were emptied, flushed and refilled.

SOCIALE VERZEKERINGSBANK

BEKENDMAKING

Het Hoofd van de Sociale Verzekeringsbank maakt hierbij bekend dat met ingang van 1 februari 1985 de premie Ziekte - en Ongevallenverzekering overgemaakt dient te worden op de rekening van de Sociale Verzekeringsbank bij.

- De Caribbean Mercantile Bank Rekening ZV/OV - premies no. 923,931 - 6

- De Algemene Bank Nederland N.V.
Rekening ZV/OV - premies no. 30.59.499

Betaling via de kassa van de S.V.B. is na 1 februari 1985 niet meer mogelijk.

TOMORROW LAST DAY TO PAY NUMBERPLATE

ORANJESTAD—
Tomorrow,friday,february 15,is the last day to
pay the first part of the
1985 numberplate for car
s,trucks,motorcycles,boat
s etc.After that date the
police will exercise strict
control and will fine those persons who have not
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ORANJESTAD- Nathaly Kelly of Tanki Leendert, 1985 Carnival Youth Queen.



ORANJESTAD-The members of the Aruba Skal Club are coordinating a"Welcome to Aruba" program at our airport starting Saturday, February 2.

During peak hour arrival times and on a rotating basis members of the club will welcome arriving passengers at the airport customs hall. Music by various bands will be provided to enhance the event and create a fun and friendly resort atmosphere expected on a tropical island.

Several other clubs have expressed interest to join in this effort of providing our arriving tourists with a warm reception.

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CARNIVAL ACTIVITIES

Thursday February 14, at 8 p.m. Aruba's 31st Carnival Queen Election and Coronation at the R.C.A. Club in Oranjestad.Friday February 15,grand

old mask parade and Jump Up from Licores Aruba to Vondellaan at 8 p.m. Carnival Dance at Bonaire Club from 9.30

p.m. to 3 a.m. Saturday DESIRED CHANGE MADE IN SAN NICOLAS **CARNIVAL ROUTE**

SAN NICOLAS-The petition signed by San

Nicolas residents requesting a change in the carnival route had positive resul ts. The S.A.C. announced that now the route is as fol

lows:Pastoor Hendrikst, (in front of Lago Sport Park), Torenstraat, B.v.d. Zepppenfeldtstraat(mainstreet), Lagoweg, Bernhardstraat, Dr. Schaepmanstraat, Pastoor Hendrikstraat.

february 16,at 4 a.m., Jouvert Pyjama parade in San Nicolas. 1 p.m. Grand Carnival Parade in San Nicolas.Sunday february 17, starting at 11 a.m. Aruba's famous grand carnival parade in Oranjestad. Monday february 18 from 8 p.m. to 12 midnight, Carnifesta at the Promenade in San Nicolas. Tuesday february 19, Grand evening parade and burning of Momo from 7.30 p.m. to 12 mid night at the R.C.A. stadium. Friday saturday february 23, Presentation of prizes and dance from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. at Caiquetio Club in Paradera.

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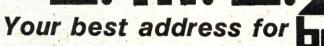
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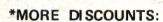
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(This article was taken from a recent Gammon Technical Products Bulletin)

PREVENTING AIRPLANE MISFUELING

Did you know that there are 5 times more aviation accidents caused by water and dirt in the fuel than from misfueling (pumping the wrong fuel into an airplane)?We hear d a supposedly responsible representative of an aircraft manufacturer say that this means the industry should concentrate on the water and dirt pro blem instead of the misfueling problem. What a monkey!

We already do many thin gs to keep fuel clean and dry but what has been do ne in the past to prevent misfueling? The answer is almost mothing. Oh yes, we do label trucks, tanks, pipes and fill stands, but not always. The aircraft are supposed to have placards stating what fuel to use, but they do not always. Bottom loading e-

quipment can easily be keyed with product selectors that have been on the market for 30 years but they are not always installed. In fact, only a small fraction of the apparatus is so equipped.

Misfueling accidents all have one thing in common-human error. After an air show, an experienced and highly professional pilot watched his light twin being refueled with a truck marked 'jet fuel'. Fortunately, he crash-landed safely.

A very young,untrained line serviceman put jet fuel in a cabin twin because he saw the word TURBO in the name of the airplane. Seven people were killed.

A dealer had a practice of keeping the unmarked jet fuel truck in one location and the unmarked avgas truck in another. Guess what happened-someone made a mistake in parking the jet truck. The accident just happened so the full report is not yet available.

A corporate pilot arrived at one of the world's largest airports and deliberately specified that he did not want fuel. He got it anyhow, jet fuel in his avgas cabin twin. The dealer caught this error before the pilot departed.

So you see, it is always hu man error. Fortunately, someone has decided to do something positive about the whole crazy si-

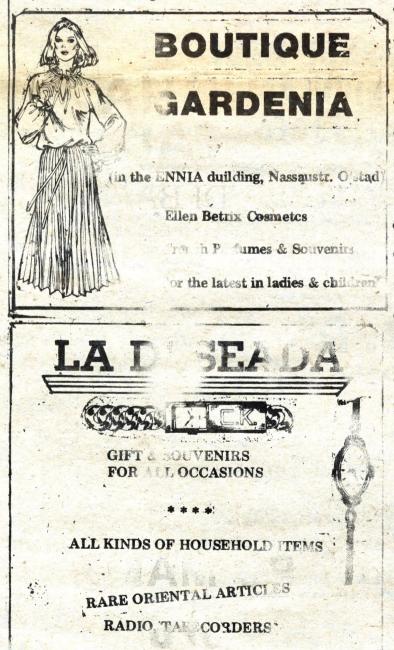
tuation. The General Avia tion Manufacturers Association has promoted a campaigh which is summarized below:

- 1.The word TURBO has been eliminated from airplane names.
- 2.Decals were designed and distributed for labeling filler caps.
- 3.Bands were designed for labeling all overwing refueling nozzles.
- 4.A keying system was de vised to prevent a large jet fuel nozzle filler spout from entering a smaller avgas filler opening.

The fourth action is the

one that is the most important because it overcomes human error.Research showed that 74o/o of avgas aircraft have filler openings that are under 2.3"in diameter.Therefore, only 260/o of the aircraft fleet would need to be modified with smaller openings if all jet fuel spouts on overwing nozzles were made larger. Through some very clever design, Shaw Aero, the lar gest manufacturer of caps and filler openings, developed an insert to reduce the size of the large openings. These kits are being

Cont. on page 7





PREVENTING AIRPLANE From page 6

offered by the airframe manufacturers, such Piper, Cessna, Beech, Mooney and Aero Commander. All new avgas aircraft manufactures after early 1984 have a small filler opening.

The spouts on overwing nozzles now in service are already sized to fit throu gh the smallest filler openings.However.to make the system work, every overwing nozzle that dispenses jet fuel must have a new spout that is large enough so it will not enter an avgas opening.OPW Division of Dover Corp.i in production with the new spouts but it was not quite as simple as making a large spout. The problem is that some jet fuel led aircraft have a "D' shaped opening; they are not round. The solution was a spout that is oval shaped.It measures 2.6" at the largest point so it will not enter a 2.3 opening, but it will enter the

"D" shaped opening.

So now you may think that the problem of misfueling is solved. Unfortunately, it is not solved because of several other problems:

1. There is no law that an airplane owner must install the restrictor kits. As of this writing, the FAA has said they have no intention of forcing owners to install the kit s.It is a voluntary program.

2. There is no law that for ces a dealer, FBO or oil company to install the new oval spouts on their jet fuel nozzles.

3.After all of the heavy research that went into the design of the system, some aircraft that use jet fuel have been found to have filler nings that are too small for the oval spout. Fortunately, some of these can be modified to the large size but others remain a problem.

4. The real "zinger" in the program is people who "bad-mouth" the idea, just because it is different from what they are accustomed to.

For Example:

a. Some line personnel say that the new spout causes excessive splash-back in the Cessna Citations and

Beech King Airs. Tests that have been run in the last few weeks, show that round spouts also will cause the same splash-back problem at the same flow rate. The difficulty is that the fuel at the same flow rate. The difficulty is that the fuel cannot flow

down the slope(dihedral of the wing rapidly because of the small holes in the wing structure. b.Some people say absolutely that the shape of the oval spout causes a spray pattern that results in splash-back. This is pure "bunk".



ORANJESTAD-The Customs Officers in picture were promoted to first class tax Customs Officers. They are: C.A. Simmons, W.L. Croes, J.R.C. Nicolaas, N.V. Vrolijk, R.R.Rombley, C.E.Geerman, N.F.Kock, A.M.Donata, A.van M.Whitfield, T.E.Vlaun, R.A.Withfield, L.A.Philips, and J.C.Peña.



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STATUS APARTE 1 JANUARI 1986 INDEPENDENCIA 1 JANUARI 1996

MEP NO TA CORRE PA RESPONSABILIDAD DEN TEMPO BON O TEMPO MALO

MEP NA VANGUARDIA DI NOS PUEBLO

Den nomber di MEP G.F. (Betico) Croes



ORANJESTAD—Mr.G.I.Scharbaay(left center) observed his 30th anniversary in the Customs Department. He recieved a letter of gratitude from the Prime Minister of the Netherlands Antilles. Mr.R.K. Gietel, Inspector of import taxes and revenue presented the letter to Mr. Scharbaay in the presence Customs Dept. head Mr.C. Goeloe, (second from left) and colleagues.



ORANJESTAD—Dr.Donald Segundo Bermudez took the oath of office in the presence of Governor Pedro Bislip.Dr.Bermudez is stationed at the Public Health Office in Oranjestad.

BETICO CROES ATTACKED

ORANJESTAD—
M.E.P.Leader Betico
Croes was attacked by two men last week tuesday night on the pier in
front of the Bali floating
restaurant.According to

Y.M.C.A. TO START P.E.P. COURSES

SAN NICOLAS-The Y.M.C.A. will start a series of courses in its cen tres in San Nicolas and Dakota on February 25. The courses will have a duration of 14 weeks and each lessons will be for 1 hour and a half the course will include:aerobics, cake making, first aid, sewing,cooking,snacks,cake decorating, creale food, handicraft, spanish and papiamento, typing english.

reports,Mr.Croes was in the restaurant with some people when he was approached by a man and was asked to come outside for a moment. Another man was waiting on the pier and a discussion was started with Betico. The discussion became heated and both men started ac-

cusing Betico of sinking Aruba, and one of the men struck Betico and threatened to throw him in the sea and end it once and for all.

The incident was later reported to the police and both men Maduro & Boekhoudt were arrested the following day.

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ARUBA HOSPITALITY TRADES TO OFFER HOTEL COURSES

The Aruba Hospitality Trades Training Center will be offering several hotel courses. Courses will start on February 24, and will last until April 20,1985. The courses are aimed specifically at the shortage of trained and qualified personnel at the entry level The courses given are:

Telephone Operator
Room Attendant
Front office clerk/cashier
Night Auditor

Busboy
Barboy
Assistant Cook
English Practical conversation, Level 1

All these courses will be held towards late afternoon and evening sessions. The cost per participant is fls. 100,00 for the courses, but for the course of Assistant Cook, which cost fls. 150,00.

Paticipants wishing to register can obtain further in formation by stopping by the Admissions Office, Ms.Dirksz.The A.H.T.T.A.in this way wishec to contribute in the overall training of unemployed arubans to help them in their preparation for Aruba's most important industry.

SAN NICOLAS LIBRARY OPEN ON MARCH 4

SAN NICOLAS-

After being closed for about a year for repairs, the branch of the Public Library in San Nicolas will reopen on March 4.

The library is located on the top floor of the auxiliary government building in San Nicolas.Opening nours are from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on Monday, Tues day and Friday, and on monday, tuesday, wednesday and friday from 2 to 5.30 p.m. The library branch in the centro di Bario Dakota will also opened on Tuesday from 4 to 8 p.m. and friday from 5 to 7 p.m.

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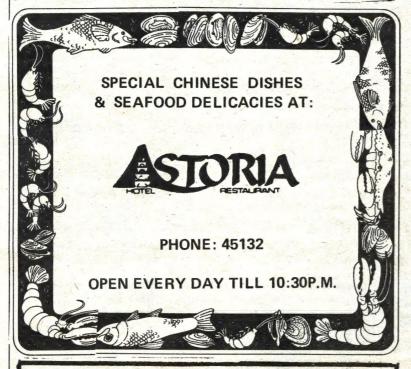
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ORANJESTAD—The Sacred Heart College won the championship of the inter school football tournament by beating Dominicus College 3-2.Mr.Jerry Gomez, co ordinator of school sports presented the prizes to the champion and sub champion teams in the presence of the head of Sacred College, Mr. Freddy Refunjol and IDE—FRE instructors.

HENK TIMMER REVEALS A CANDID VIEW FO THE CURRENT SITUATION

By Observer

Mr.Henk Timmer is a wellknown member of the community with a keen sense of observation. His written contributions are always well read and quoted for their accuracy and frankness. The following is a reprint of one of Mr. Timmer's articles which appeared in the January edition of ATIA News, titled:

The Painful Process of Adaptation.

Aruba must adjust itself to the new reality of an economy without Lago. Each year Lago paid almost 100 million in salaries, wages and social fits, and it Lago purchased merchandise on the island for a a very considerable amount of money. A variety of enterprises depend entirely or partially on Lago for their

service. The government received almost 50 percent of its income.directly or indirectly, due to the presence of this refinery. If all this disappears at once, it implies much more than the mere closing down of a plant. It is nothing less than an economic disaster. Every com parison is imperfect, but Eindhoven without Philips, Detroit without its automobile industry, West land without agriculture or Rotterdam without its harbor and without Pernis, are some examples which come to mind. If the Netherlands, all of a suden, no longer has any natural gas, the government loses 18 percent of its budget. Aruba loses 50 percent of its income with the departure of Lago, thus more or less triple. That this disaster hits

Aruba, especially now, after a peroid of years of a large government income will make the adjustment even more painful.Our government have hardly counted, during the good years, that bad years migh t be ahead and have reserved almost nothing of the additional 300 million of income taxes recei ved from Lago in the period 1979-1984.This very short-sighted, but extenuating circumstances show that the same happened in Curacao with the millions of additional income from the off-shore sector, and in The Netherlands with the natural gas profits. It seems ex tremely difficult for a government to reserve this kind of income for invest ments a to create a buffer for bad times. The temptation to spend is great. The Netherlands has spen t it to improve their social programs and to expand the social benefits state, which could not be maintained during the recession even with the bil lions of profits out of na-

tural gas.

Nowadays The Netherlan ds are going through a painful period of adaptation and various sectors-amongst other public officers-had to give up about 20 percent of their bu-

Cont. on page 10

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ORANJESTAD—On Friday, February 8, Mr. Augustin Brete celebrated his 25th anni versary as an employee of the Telephone Service Department Engineer Edwin Croes, Head of the department presented the customary envelope with contents to Mr. Brete in the presence of his family and a colleague.

HENK TIMMER REVERALS From page 9

for employment in the p

private sector through

transitory payment regu-

ying power already.Not only the additional income will disappear for Aruba, but with the departure of Lago the entire economic basis of the island is put in danger.In Curação the additional in come from profit taxes of the offshore sector wil I continue for some but there the adaptation will also become urgent and painfull within a shor t while.

A Step Backwards For Everyone.

The adjustment to the new reality will affect everyone. For the government did subsidize sufficient income at times.Making water costs a lot mo re than we pay for. The same thing goes for electricity. The subventions must gradually be elimina ted. The cost of medical assistance will have to go

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down and the possibility to get free medical assistance must be restricted. Bus fares must go up.

School classes must become larger.Scholarships scarcer; sport events and exchanges paid byy the government, more of an than exception ple who are still working for the government, but who are already entitled to a pension must be sent home-it is said that it con cerns 20 percent of the government personneland at TAV the people who receive pension or other income or who alrea receive AOV, must leave. An investigation wil be necessary. Young

people must be prepared

lations and retraining. The private sector will also have to take giant steps backwards. Shops focused Cont. on page 11 **ESQUIRE** SAN NICOLAS



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ORANJESTAD-Minister of Antiilean Affairs, Jan de Koning (left center) met with the Executive Council of Aruba to discuss various pending projects. He was accompanied by Drs.Moerman, director of the cabinet for Antillean Affairs, Drs. F. A. Palm and Drs.Gent of the same department and Drs.Gent. representative for Dutch Economic aid to the Netherlands Antilles.

HENKTIMMER REVEAL

on tourism already experienced a blow due to the loss of the easy spending Venezuelan tourist and see themselves confronted with a low turnover and personnel expenses which can hardly be covered. All sorts of companies which delivered to Lago or performed work for Lago have a very diffi cult time ahead.Commerce as a whole will also be affected because the buying power of the public will decrease in all aspects. The hotels have counter-balanced the loss of Venezuelan tourists by flying in as fast as possible,an additional number American however, was done at the expense of room rates which are so low that the hotels now are not very profitable and can hardly cope with the drastically increased prices for water and electricity.

New Impulses Are Necessary

The situation which the lized.

week's edition.

CAMBIA BO TAPANAN PA CUMON Y PARTICIPA DEN E SORTEO DI DIA 22 di februari 1985

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No parting a contract

Aruban economy will find itself in after the departure of Lago, can only improve if thos economy receives new strong impulses.Apart from the search for petroleum under the sea-bottom, necessary but too strongly. First hotel expansions and new hotels should be rea-

to be continued in next

DUTCH From page 3

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come an undesirable guar dian for the Netherlands Antilles. The Aruba delegation is of the opinion that Holland must accept the responsibility for the less affluent islands. In order not to endanger the Status Aparte of Aruba the Aruba delegation san ctioned Minister de Koning's proposal. The viewpoint of the delegation is unchanged, but according to the developments at the Mini Summit Conference further steps must be deliberated, according to a declaration from the Aruba delegation...

RECOMENDATION

From page 2

sary temporarily and for a number of years of adjustments on the one side and temporary aid plus a concentrated and forcefully executed development plan for private sector, Aruba can overcome the Lago closing.





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